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Reno Public Meeting
October 4, 2001

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MARY CONELLY: My name is Mary Conelly,

5 C-o-n-e-l-l-y. I'm the State Director for United states

6 Senator Reid. I bring you comments from Senator Reid.

7 He wants to thank everyone for coming here

8 today, and he wants to say two things.

9 He wants to thank you for taking the time out

10 of your busy schedules to come here to express your views

11 on the Department of Energy's plan to bring high-level

12 nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain. He challenges you not

13 to give up. Together we will fight to stop the shipment

14 of nuclear waste and its disposal to Nevada.

15 We are at a very critical time in the history

16 of the Yucca Mountain project. The transportation -- the

17 Department of Energy is currently taking public comment

18 on its preliminary site suitability evaluation and plans

19 to make a site recommendation early next year.

20 In light of current events in the new world

21 in which we live, we must continue to rally against Yucca

22 Mountain. All of you know this process is flawed. We do

23 not have a final Environmental Impact Statement, we do

24 not have finalized nuclear regulatory and Department of

25 Energy siting regulations. In the coming weeks and

85

1 months, the fight over Yucca Mountain will necessarily

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- 2 focus on the issue of nuclear waste and transportation.
- 3 I urge you and others to oppose Yucca Mountain, to take
- 4 up the grave challenge of protecting Americans from the
- 5 unsafe shipment of deadly radioactive waste.
- 6 It is not necessary, it has not been proven
- 7 safe, it would be vulnerable to terrorist attack, it is a
- 8 very bad idea.